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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY POLAND

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SUBJECT Naval Reserve Training of Szkoła Morska (Maritime School)
Graduates/ Instructors at the Naval Officers School-
Officerska Szkoła Marynarki Wojennej.

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1. "In theory every officer of the Polish Merchant Marine must also be an officer of the Naval Reserve. In 1951 the naval course for graduates of the Szkoła Morska (Maritime School) was set to last three years." 25X1

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25X1 Actually many graduates of the Szkoła Morska do their compulsory military service in various branches of the army, mainly because they do not have the necessary political qualifications for naval service.

2. "The naval political entrance examination for selected graduates of the Szkoła Morska is very scrupulous. It lasted three days [redacted] in October 1950, along with 127 other candidates from Szkoła Morska (both navigation and engineering sections). It was given in the building for noncommissioned officers (szkoła podoficerów zawodowych) of the Torpedo Station (Wyrzutnia Torped Podwodnych i Nadwodnych) which controls the Bay of Gdańsk. First there were X-rays and a

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worthless medical examination. The doctor merely asked if there was a history of TB in the family. The political screening was conducted by ten naval officers, including a politruk, Captain (fmu) Kolodynski, who was actually very fair. The committee had a detailed UB dossier on each candidate and cross-examined him accordingly. Of the 127 candidates only 81 were finally admitted to the Naval School. A few got their military service deferred and were allowed to sail with the merchant marine immediately. The others entered the army.

3. "The Szkoła Kompania Officerów Rezerwy (Training Company for Reserve Officers) was subordinated to the Oficerska Szkoła Marynarki Wojennej (O.S.W. - Naval Officers' School), commanded in 1951, by Commander

25X1 Wojennej (O.S.W. - Naval Officers' School), commanded in 1951, by Commander Wiktor Rukiewicz, an elderly Pole of Russian origin. He once served in the Tsarist Navy and speaks Russian. He was called 'dziada' - 'grandfather' by the ensigns and was not considered a really serious Communist. He always wore white gloves and carried a small Colt pistol.

4. [redacted] training began in November 1950 with six weeks of lecture courses at the Kadra Marynarki Wojennej in Ustka, where all naval recruits are sent for preliminary training. The head of my company was Lt. Zbislaw Poliszuk, a cavalry officer who had transferred to the navy after serving with the Soviet cavalry

25X1 and then with Budenny's division in Russia. He was a good leader, and [redacted] group was fond of him. The company political officer was (fmu) Golynski, popularly called 'momyszula' after the hero in Beck's novel Shosa Wolokolamska, a Soviet book.

5. "The instructors at Ustka were elderly sailors who had served in the Polish Navy perhaps 9-12 months and had little regular education behind them. The relations between the naval recruits and these sailors were bad from the start. They thought they had got bewildered boys from the interior and could impose upon them. They picked their favorites and plied them with money and vodka. But they didn't realize at first that some of their recruits had two or three years of solid Szkoła Morska training behind them. The 81 Szkoła Morska graduates stuck together as a unit to make it difficult for these instructors, and the instructors persecuted them in every way and forbade them to talk about their experiences in the merchant marine. The training was grueling because [redacted] group was forced to complete in six weeks a course that the others completed in three months.

6. "Apart from naval subjects, [redacted] studied military drill and attended political lectures. During the autumn of 1950 the Soviet drill was introduced and made compulsory. There were four hours of political lectures a week, plus 25X1 discussions and ZMP meetings. [redacted] taught that the Polish leaders Kosciuszko, Wroblewski, Dabrowski, and Bem were really forerunners of Communism.

7. "On 4 January 1951, after [redacted] group of 81 had been granted unprecedented holiday leave, [redacted] were transferred to the Naval Officers' School in Oksywie for further 25X1 instruction. [redacted] thus were studying in the same building as the officer candidates 25X1 who were planning to make the regular navy their career. Such candidates undergo 25X1 four years of training.

8. "The instructors at the school changed frequently, with the exception of Rukiewicz. The junior officers were usually Poles, while the middle ranks (lieutenant-commander, commander and captain) were always Soviets. In the engineering section, for example, the instructors were nearly all Soviet commanders who lectured only in Russian. Most of the boys could not understand them and had to get the notes from those who did.

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9. "The following officers were among those attached to the school [redacted]

Captain (fmu) Tekiel - Deputy for Political Affairs

Lt. (fmu) Iapelitow - Training Officer ('kierownik wyszkolenia')
A Soviet who wore Soviet uniform and spoke no Polish.

Commander 2nd Lt. (fmu) Czerwinski - Chief of the navigation section.

Captain (fmu) Kolodynski) Political officers.
2nd Lt. (fmu) Felis)

(fmu) Szelest - Chief instructor for tactics and navigation. A Soviet.
He lectured in Russian, slowly and clearly.

Cmdr. 2nd Lt. (fmu) Kowalski) Artillery instructors. Kowalski was
Capt. (fmu) Rozbicki) a Pole from England. Rozbicki formerly
Capt. (fmu) Terlecki) belonged to the Soviet coastal artillery.
Terlecki was formerly captain of the
BLYSKAWICA.

Capt. Piotr Sakolnicki - Lecturer for underwater weapons. He
served on the submarine 'RYS' which was
interned in Sweden in World War II. A
professional naval officer, not a Commu-
nist. His deputy was Senior Boatswain
(fmu) Boranski.

Cmdr. 2nd Lt. (fmu) Konn - Signals instructor. He passed an
advanced course in radar during
World War II in England. He was a
son of the well known Polish cavalry
officer, Major Konn.

Capt. (fmu) Drag - Instructor in Chemical Warfare. He had served
with the Polish Army in the USSR.

10. "In addition to the lectures on naval subjects, political lectures were given four times a week. The main subjects were: the history of the Communist Party, Marxist philosophy, dialectics, dialectical and historical materialism, Socialism, the international workers' movement and the Polish workers' movement. Knowledge of these matters was considered even more important than knowledge of naval subjects. If a candidate did not pass a political examination he was finished.

11. "No Russian was taught to the reserve officer candidates because they had already had lessons in Russian at the Szkoła Morska (Maritime School). Candidates for the regular navy, who studied in the same building, had Russian lessons four or five times a week.

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12. "The examinations for our group of podchorazy (reserve ensigns) took place from 1 to 18 May 1951. There were 14 naval papers and one political paper. All 81 candidates passed. [] previously heard that [] might be transferred to the regular navy, [] and had deliberately neglected [] lessons. 25X1 The ZMP and Party got alarmed and announced that candidates who failed their examinations would lose their merchant marine sailing licenses. Disciplinary measures (e.g. denial of town leave) were instituted, and it was emphasized to 25X1 the boys that the workers and peasants of Poland were paying for their education. 25X1

13. [] left the school as ensigns with the rank of 'mat' and 'bosmat podchorazy' and 25X1 with the same seniority rights on the naval training vessels as the older NCOs. 25X1

25X1 [] the trawler [] practiced minesweeping. There 25X1 were about 20 Polish speedboats in Szczecin harbor in 1951 and about 20 Soviet 25X1 speedboats in Swinoujcie. The Soviet boats were modern steel torpedo boats equipped with radar, 36-38 m long and capable of 28-30 knots per hour.

14. "On 28 Sept 51 the members [] training unit were made reserve officers. [] 25X1 participated in night maneuvers involving the entire Polish Navy. Twenty of [] 81 received orders to remain in the regular 25X1 navy as sublieutenants. These twenty protested strongly; they had studied three 25X1 years at the Szkoła Morska in order to become officers in the merchant marine. 25X1 Cmdr. 2nd Lt. (fmu) Skarzynski, Chief of Staff at the Officers' School, stated 25X1 that the orders were dictated by the international situation and the men should be proud that they had been chosen to defend their country. The twenty ensigns were ordered to attend a party given by the Commander of the Polish Navy, (fmu) Cherokov, a Soviet. They refused to go and went to bed in protest. But finally they were made to go. Czerokov does not speak Polish. Usually the Navy's chief Politruk, Commander (fmu) Urbanowicz, speaks for him. (Note: it is 'Cherokov,' not 'Cherviakov'.)"

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